

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 167957
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER:WES
APPROVED BY NEA:WCRAWFORD
S/S:SVALERGA
P:AMB NEWSOM
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-----004056 012237Z /61

O 012223Z JUL 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 167957

EXDIS JERUSALEM FOR ASST SECY SAUNDERS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, LE

SUBJECT:FIGHTING IN BEIRUT

REF: BEIRUT 3668

1. PURSUANT TO RECOMMENDATIONS IN REFTTEL, UNDER SECRETARY
NEWSOM TELEPHONED SYRIAN AMBASSADOR KABBANI TO DESCRIBE
REPORTS OF HEAVY FIGHTING IN BEIRUT AND TO BRING TO HIS
ATTENTION OUR CONCERN THAT LEVEL OF FIGHTING WAS REACHING
A SERIOUS STAGE. NEWSOM CAREFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SYRIA'S

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ROLE IN MAINTAINING SECURITY AND STABILITY IN LEBANON WAS
IMPORTANT BUT NOTED THAT LEBANONESE LEADERS WERE CONCERNED
WITH THE WAY THE SITUATION WAS EVOLVING. NEWSOM EXPRESSED
THE HOPE THAT ALL POSSIBLE RESTRAINT WOULD BE EXERCIZED.
HE NOTED THAT SARKIS HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH AMBASSADOR
PARKER.

2. KABBANI STRESSED THAT THE SYRIAN FORCES IN LEBANON HAD A MANDATE TO EXERCIZE SECURITY CONTROL AND HE ASKED WHETHER SARKIS HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE SYRIAN AUTHORITIES. NEWSOM SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT SARKIS HAD BEEN

IN TOUCH ON THREE OCCASIONS WITH SYRIANS. NEWSOM SAID THE PROBLEM WAS SERIOUS AND IT WAS AT LEAST POSSIBLE THAT THE SYRIAN FORCES ON THE SPOT WERE NOT ACTING EXACTLY IN ACCORD WITH INSTRUCTIONS THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN SENT FROM DAMASCUS. AGAIN, HE ASKED THAT ALL STEPS BE TAKEN TO CALM THE SITUATION.

3. ACTING NEA ASSISTANT SECRETARY CRAWFORD SIMULTANEOUSLY

TELEPHONED ISRAELI EMBASSY COUNSELOR BENTSUR, SINCE CHARGE WAS UNAVAILABLE. CRAWFORD ALSO DESCRIBED THE SENSITIVE SITUATION IN EAST BEIRUT AND ASKED THAT THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT USE ITS INFLUENCE WITH CHRISTIAN ELEMENTS, ESPECIALLY BASHIR GENAIEL, TO TRY TO CALM THE SITUATION AND TO AVOID PROVOCATIONS TOWARD THE SYRIAN FORCES. BENTSUR PROMISED TO TRANSMIT THE DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST TO HIS GOVERNMENT IMMEDIATELY.

4. EMBASSIES TEL AVIV AND DAMASCUS SHOULD PARALLEL THESE APPROACHES WITH THE RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS. SUGGEST THAT APPROACHES BE PUT WITHIN CONTEXT OF SHARING INFORMATION ON WHAT COULD BE A DELICATE SITUATION IN BEIRUT. VANCE

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY:NEA:AGLASPIE

APPROVED BY: NEA:AGLASPIE

S/S-O:MCEURVORST

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 167957

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 167957 ACTION TEL AVIV JERUSLAMEN
DAMASCUS INFO AMMAN CAIRO USUN NEW YORK DATED JUL 01:

QTE: S E C R E T STATE 167957

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E.O. 11652:GDS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780272-1077
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197807102/aaaadibv.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Reference: 78 BEIRUT 3668
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIGHTING IN BEIRUT
TAGS: PINT, PINS, MOPS, LE
To: TEL AVIV JERUSALEM MULTIPLE
Type: TE
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